

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 OPR-02 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05
USSS-00 CPR-01 SY-05 USIE-00 PRS-01 OC-06 CCO-00
/043 W
-----201727Z 105000 /50

O 201535Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5416
INFO WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 KINGSTON 2590

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (MRS. GRACE VANCE)
SUBJECT: MRS. VANCE'S ITINERARY ON MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO JAMAICA

DEPARTMENT FOR A, WHITE HOUSE FOR MS. MARY HOYT
STATE PROTOCOL FOR MRS. DOBELLE

REF: A. KINGSTON 2527, B. KINGSTON 2513

1. WE ASSUME MRS. VANCE WOULD LIKE TO ACCOMPANY MRS. CARTER
ON MOST OF THE SCHEDULE PUT FORWARD IN REFTELS.

2. AS PRESENTLY PLANNED, ONLY MAJOR DIVERSION FROM MRS.
CARTER'S SCHEDULE WOULD OCCUR DURING BILATERAL TALKS ON
MAY 30. MRS. VANCE WILL HAVE BETWEEN 2:45 P.M. AND 5:00 PM
FREE SHOULD SHE WISH TO VISIT AN ISSUE EVENT OF HER OWN
DURING THIS PERIOD.

3. WE HAVE CONSIDERED A NUMBER OF POSSIBILITIES AND HAVE
NARROWED DOWN THE CHOICES TO: THE YWCA SCHOOL FOR LEAVERS,
THE MOUNT AIRY FORESTRY PROJECT (AID ASSISTED),
AND GIRLS TOWN. OF THE THREE, WE PREFER THE FORESTRY
PROJECT BECAUSE OF ITS CONNECTION TO AID, ITS LOCAL
COLOR CONTENT AND BECAUSE IT REPRESENTS A GOJ

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PRIORITY AREA. HOWEVER, THE PROJECT IS LOCATED A 25-
MINUTE DRIVE FROM THE RESIDENCE AND IS A SOMEWHAT
MORE RIGOROUS TRIP THAN THE OTHER TWO ALTERNATIVES.

4. OUR SECOND CHOICE WOULD BE THE GIRLS TOWN PROJECT
POSSIBLY TO BE SEEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH A RASTAFARIAN
COMMUNITY NEARBY. (WE HAVE NOT YET APPROACHED THE

RASTAFARIANS ON THE POSSIBILITY). ONLY SLIGHTLY LESS INTERESTING WOULD BE THE SCHOOL FOR LEAVERS WHICH IS QUITE SIMILAR TO GIRLS TOWN. IN OUR OPINION, MUCH DEPENDS ON THE PERSONAL PROCLIVITIES OF MRS. VANCE. IF EITHER THE GIRLS TOWN OR LEAVERS SCHOOL ARE SELECTED, MRS. VANCE MAY ALSO WISH TO TAKE IN A SHORT SIDE TRIP TO THE MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART LOCATED NEXT DOOR TO JAMAICA HOUSE.

5. FOLLOWING ARE DESCRIPTIONS OF EACH OF THE THREE PROPOSED EVENTS:

A. YWCA SCHOOL FOR LEAVERS: SET UP ORIGINALLY AS A MEANS FOR EDUCATING "SLOW LEARNERS" AND THE UN-SKILLED, THE YWCA PROGRAM HAS EXPANDED TO PROVIDE ACADEMIC AS WELL AS TRADE SKILLS TRAINING TO YOUNG GIRLS. THE CLASSES ARE AIMED AT PROVIDING THE STUDENTS WITH MARKETABLE SKILLS WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT.

THERE ARE 250 STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN THIS PROGRAM. THE CURRICULUM CONTAINS SUBJECTS RANGING FROM ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS AND CIVICS TO FAMILY PLANNING CHILD CARE, DRESSMAKING AND CRAFTWORK. THE PROGRAM IS PAID FOR BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND THE STUDENTS PAY ONLY A NOMINAL FEE FOR SUPPLIES. THE PROJECT IS AIDED BY ONE PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER.

LOCATED IN THE KINGSTON AREA, THE YWCA IS ABOUT TEN MINUTES FROM KING'S HOUSE AND TWENTY MINUTES FROM THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE.

B. MOUNT AIRY FORESTRY PROJECT: LOCATED IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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MOUNTAINS NORTH OF KINGSTON, THE MT. AIRY FORESTRY PROJECT ENCOMPASSES A SEVEN-ACRE NURSERY WHICH PREPARES SEEDLINGS FOR 18,000 ACRES OF TIMBERLAND THROUGHOUT JAMAICA.

THE NURSERY EMPLOYS ABOUT 100 WOMEN WHO ARE SUPER-

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5417

INFO WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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DEPART FOR A. WHITE HOUSE FOR MS MARY HOYT

STATE PROTOCOL FOR MRS. DOBELLE

VISED BY MRS. RUTH MCBEAN, A JAMAICAN WHO STARTED AT THE NURSERY AS A LABORER 40 YEARS AGO AND HAS BECOME A SUPERVISOR AND ALSO A MINI-LEGEND IN THE AREA. THE NURSERY WAS RECENTLY RENAMED AFTER HER.

THE FORESTRY PROJECT IS AIMED AT THE IMPORT SUBSTITUTION OF SOFT WOODS TO JAMAICA AS WELL AS A MEANS OF PROVIDING SUBSTANTIAL EMPLOYMENT. THE TIMBER PRODUCED UNDER THIS PROJECT IS USED FOR FURNITURE AND BUILDING MATERIALS. UNDER A CURRENT AID-SPONSORED PROJECT UTILIZING 7200 ACRES OF FOREST LAND, TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE BEING PROVIDED AIMED AT DETERMINING OPTIMUM QUALITY AND MAXIMUM YIELD TIMBER.

THE DRIVE TO THE PROJECT IS THROUGH VERY SCENIC COUNTRY VILLAGES AND MOUNTAINOUS AREAS. THE TERRACED NURSERY, NESTLED BETWEEN TWO MOUNTAINS, IS VERY COLORFUL AND SURROUNDED BY TOWERING PINE TREES--EVIDENCING THE SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT. PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES ARE EXCELLENT. A VISIT TO THIS PROJECT WOULD PROVIDE A CONTRAST TO MRS. CARTER'S PROPOSED STOP AT THE URBAN UPGRADING PROJECT IN CENTRAL KINGSTON.

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THE NURSERY IS APPROXIMATELY FORTY MINUTES FROM KING'S HOUSE AND TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES FROM THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE. THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT IN ORDER TO FULLY ENJOY THE VISIT, MRS. VANCE SHOULD WEAR FLAT WALKING SHOES AND GIVE CONSIDERATION TO CHANGING INTO CASUAL ATTIRE.

C. GIRLS TOWN: LOCATED ON THE FRINGES OF THE MOST DEPRESSED AREA OF KINGSTON, GIRLS TOWN HAS A CURRENT ENROLLMENT OF 200 STUDENTS DRAWN FROM THE IMMEDIATE AREA. THE SCHOOL IS SITUATED ON A THREE-ACRE PLOT AND CURRENTLY CONSISTS OF FOUR CLASSROOM BUILDINGS, CARETAKER'S RESIDENCE AND A LARGE VEGETABLE GARDEN. THE SCHOOL WAS FORMED IN ORDER TO

GIVE UNSKILLED, UNTRAINED GIRLS AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL SUBJECTS IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR USEFUL EMPLOYMENT.

AID HAS GIVEN ASSISTANCE TO THE SCHOOL IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CLASSROOM BUILDING. THE PEACE CORPS HAS ONE VOLUNTEER ASSIGNED TO THE PROJECT. GIRLS TOWN IS ALSO SUBSIDIZED BY THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. IN RECOGNITION OF THE EFFORTS BEING MADE AT THE SCHOOL, THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL MOBILIZATION, D K DUNCAN, RECENTLY APPROVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SPORTS COURT FOR THE SCHOOL.

THE SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT IS EVIDENCE BY THE HIGH PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATEES WHO GO ON TO FRUITFUL EMPLOYMENT OR FURTHER STUDIES.

AN INTERESTING SIDE TRIP WHICH COULD BE INCLUDED WITH THIS STOP IS A VISIT TO THE RASTAFARIAN COMMUNITY LOCATED ACROSS THE STREET FROM GIRLS TOWN.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY REPLY.

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